

NDSU UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION





Federal Highway Administration



BROCKWHITE

ONSTRUCTION MAT



North Dakota Asphalt Conference

Reinforcing HMA with Fibers

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- Aramid fibers are more recognizable by their Trademarked name of KEVLAR
- Stronger than steel
- Reinforcing fibers in PCC has been around for a time now
- More recently fibers for HMA has evolved.



Aramid Fibers in HMA



INCREASE DURABILITY OF OVERLAY

1.5" asphalt overlay with FiberService Life increase: >50%Cost Increase: +/- \$1.00 per SY

IN LIEU OF REFLECTIVE CRACK INTERLAYERS

1.5" asphalt overlay with FiberService Life increase: >50%Cost Savings: \$1-10 per SY

STRENGTHEN LIGHT DUTY PAVEMENTS

3.0" light duty asphalt with FiberESAL increase: >160%Cost Increase: +/- \$2.00 per SY

IN LIEU OF POLYMER MODIFIED BINDER

1.5" asphalt overlay with FiberEqual Service Life BUT Easier Lay DownCost Neutral: \$0.00 per SY

OPTIMIZE HEAVY DUTY PAVEMENTS

5.0" heavy duty asphalt with Fiber In-lieu of 6" w/o ESAL increase: >40% Cost Neutral: +/- \$0.00 per SY

Sooo... DOES PUTTING LITTLE HAIR THINGS IN HMA....

REALY WORK???







Aramid Fibers in North Dakota

- Test section constructed in the fall of 2015 on Cass County HWY 18 from 42nd street S.E. north to the railroad tracks
- Service road on the south side of I94 at Casselton. It's well signed for directions to the site
- The test was comparing various base treatments with various wear courses on top
- Chip Seals, Micro-Surfacing, ultra thin lift HMA
- Border States proposed a mix design using fibers
- Even though the literature states differently the entire south bound lane has fibers in it from the railroad tracks to the intersection
- The following pictures were taken on January 13th of 2018.









The cracking pattern on the roadway

- The cracks in the north bound lane exhibit the characteristics we are used to in current pavements, wide open and jiggered.
- The cracks cross into the FRAC lane, come to a common point and then spread out in a much tighter almost predictable pattern
- This is somewhat comparable to "egg shell" cracking in CRC.
- The cracks in the FRAC lane probably wouldn't fall into the maintenance program in most crack sealing programs.















Longitudinal common crack

- This crack in the pavement stumped me for a while.
- This is the point where the crack from the north bound lane continued into the south bound lane
- Looking closer it is apparent that this point is the edge of the screed from the paver so one might be able to deduce that the screed plays an important part in utilizing FRAC.



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UPPER GREAT PLAINS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM





